

Sheriff



Larry Ashley, Okaloosa County Sheriff

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May 16, 2014

OCSO DEPUTY NAMED 2013 OKALOOSA LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE YEAR



(Former Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee congratulates OCSO Deputy Jonathan Schlager as Undersheriff Don Adams looks on.)

Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office Deputy Jonathan Schlager has added another award to his current list.

The agency's 2013 Deputy of the Year has also been named Okaloosa County's Top Law Enforcement Officer of the Year for 2013. Deputy Schlager was recognized Wednesday, May 14th, at the OCSO's Annual Law Enforcement Memorial/Appreciation Luncheon, which featured FOX News TV host and former Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee as the event speaker. The accounting firm of Carr, Riggs, and Ingram served as judges for this year's honor.

Deputy Schlager began his law enforcement career in the U.S. Air Force and has continued to serve as a Reservist since 2009, presently assigned at Hurlburt Field.

Since coming on board the OCSO in March 2012, Deputy Schlager has demonstrated an outstanding work rate. Last year he responded to 1,698 calls for service, generated 187 offense reports, and made approximately ninety arrests. He was also selected as a shift Field Trainer and logged nearly 340 hours field training newly hired deputies.

Deputy Schlager began working a string of warehouse burglaries in the area in August 2013. He not only identified a suspect and located multiple victims who were unaware their storage units had been burglarized, but obtained an arrest warrant for the suspect and helped the Criminal Investigations Division recover more than \$35,000 in stolen goods that could then be returned to the rightful owners.

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The Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office is accredited by the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation.

"The Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office provides equal access and equal opportunity in employment and services and does not discriminate"

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Supervisors say Deputy Schlager leads by example and demonstrates a “can do” attitude that inspires his co-workers. They cite his energy, focus, good judgment, professionalism, and unrelenting pursuit of justice.

He is also a current member of Freemason Lodge 172, and volunteers time to the Lodge’s fund raising efforts for various charities.

Other nominees for Okaloosa Law Enforcement Officer of the Year for 2013 included:

Technical Sergeant Joel Wahowski
96th Security Forces Squadron

Staff Sergeant Thomas Emrick
1st Special Ops Security Forces Squadron

First Lieutenant Daniel Peterson
96th Security Forces Squadron

Officer Dustin Rosenberg
Ft Walton Beach Police Dept



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